

ER 0-6500

RTH.

20 SEP 1949

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TO:

SUBJECT: Commendation

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On [] a flash fire, caused by a spark igniting some gasoline fumes, occurred [] where you are employed.

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Seeing that the fire had ignited the clothes of a fellow employee, [] and that he was seriously ablaze, dazed and panic stricken, you ran across the warehouse to the scene of the fire and dragged [] away from the flames. This you did without regard to your personal safety, although you knew that there was additional gasoline at the scene of the fire, which might have exploded at any time.

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While you were dragging [] the scene of the blaze, and immediately thereafter, you assisted him in beating out the flames which engulfed his clothing and person. This you also did without regard to your personal safety, resulting in your receiving first degree burns on your hands which required medical treatment.

After seeing that the flames engulfing [] were under control, you ran to a nearby shed to secure the proper type of fire extinguisher to cope with gasoline flames. Returning, you extinguished the blaze with the extinguisher, thus preventing additional property loss and damage.

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Once the blaze was out, you proceeded to assist in applying vaseline to [] burns, utilizing your war-time training in first aid.

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Had it been possible for [] to survive the burns which covered 70 percent of his body, his recovery would have been largely due to your quick thinking and heroic actions.

Your exceptional actions in attempting to save your fellow employee, without regard to your personal safety and resulting in your own injury, as well as your prevention of further property damage which would have resulted had the blaze gotten out of hand, reflects great credit upon yourself and the Central Intelligence Agency. It gives me great personal pleasure to present this commendation and to make it a part of your official record.

Signed - dip via ER 9/20/49.

ices Officer

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Records

R. M. HILLENBROTTER

Rear Admiral, USN

Director of Central Intelligence